Development Management Panel

Report of the meetings held on 22nd February and 15th March 2010

Matters for Information

25. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

Over two meetings, the Panel has determined a total of seventeen applications of which eleven were approved and six refused.

The District Council also has been consulted on an outline planning application received by Peterborough City Council for the development of a new township, Great Haddon, which would be located to the south of Hampton Vale between the A15 and the A1 west of the village of Yaxley. Representations on the application were made to the Panel by Ward Councillors, Parish Council representatives, an objector and the agent. During detailed debate on the application, the Panel raised several concerns which related to the proposed closure of the A15 by a bus gate, use of the proposed new secondary school for Yaxley children, use of valuable farm land for further development, the impact of the scheme on Yaxley and other Huntingdonshire communities and the importance of the retention of Yaxley as a separate village.

The Head of Planning Services has been requested to respond formally to the City Council to convey to that Council the concerns raised at the meeting and to discuss issues in respect of the Masterplan, transportation and benefits likely to accrue from the development. The Panel and speakers will continue to be updated on these discussions as they progress.

26. SCHEME OF DELEGATION – DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PANEL

With effect from 1st October 2009, the Planning Act 2008 introduced a mechanism for local planning authorities to make non-material amendments to an existing planning permission following an application by a person with an interest in the land. In practice, these amendments will constitute "very small changes" to the original application for which consultation with parish councils and neighbours will not be necessary provided the local planning authority is satisfied that the amendment is non-material.

In these circumstances, the Panel has authorised the Head of Planning Services or in his absence, the Planning Service Manager (Development Management) to determine all applications for non-material amendments and further agreed that the Panel's scheme of delegation be adjusted accordingly with immediate effect.

27. DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRESS REPORT: 1ST OCTOBER - 31ST DECEMBER 2009

The Panel has undertaken its regular review of the activities of Development Management services over the period 1st October - 31st December 2009 in comparison with the preceding quarter and the corresponding period in 2008. Whilst noting that quarterly income from planning fees was less than anticipated, the Panel was informed that income levels compare favourably with those of neighbouring authorities and that it was expected that annual income will be close to that envisaged in the final budget.

P G Mitchell Chairman